

## The Sun

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THE SUN, New York City.

Mr. Cleveland's Proposed Disclaimers.

By far the most authentic statement of Mr. CLEVELAND's wish to proclaim his unwillingness to be nominated for a second term, is that put forth by Mr. DORRANCE. He states the fact positively, and gives it the advantage of his own responsible testimony. There is no longer any doubt that Mr. CLEVELAND has cherished such a wish, nor is there any question that Mr. DORRANCE disavowed him from the public declaration which he had contemplated. In the light of this new evidence, the previous statements of Mr. SMITH and of the unnamed Senator of the *Missouri Republican*, become solid and credible.

Another remarkable circumstance also appears, not only in Mr. DORRANCE's report, but in that of the *Missouri Senator*. In presenting to Mr. CLEVELAND those pleasant arguments against his project, which politicians naturally suggest, to a personal friend, they both assured him that the Democratic party would be unanimous for his nomination next year, and his election a matter of entire certainty. By this means they evidently intended to make it easy for Mr. CLEVELAND to execute his plan. Of course it would be much more agreeable for him to renounce a glory and an honor which he was assured were clearly within his grasp, than to put aside that which he could not attain, and had no excuse to hope for. This politeness does credit to Mr. DORRANCE's tact, and to his desire to serve the Democracy by removing a cause of dissension and of danger, which, if it should become rampant again in the canvass of 1898, would certainly leave the party in a more shattered condition than it has experienced at any time during the last quarter of a century.

Let Mr. CLEVELAND's friends continue to give him these pleasant assurances, if thereby they can only bring him decidedly to the point of taking himself out of the running.

The Friends of Ireland More Hopeful.

Although the Tory-Unionist majority has been hitherto maintained at something like its original proportions, it is not expected to bear with equal success the severe strain to which it is about to be subjected. Before many days are over the discussion of the Crimes bill in committee, the disputation over some features of the GOSCHEN budget, and the debate upon the Land bill sent down from the Lords, will bring out decided differences of opinion not only among the Liberal Unionists, but among Conservatives themselves. If the Government acknowledges the force of objections and remodels its measures in important particulars, it will be discredited; while, if it pays no heed to criticism, its majority will dwindle, or may even disappear.

The difficulty of reconciling the House of Commons to the more odious provisions of the Crimes bill will for the first time be apparent in the committee stage, which, it is supposed, will be reached on Friday. The dissatisfaction with the BALFOUR measure evinced by some Unionists, and even by some Tories, has been temporarily repressed by assurances that in the final settlement of details due attention will be paid to their scruples and misgivings. But how far can the Government, without impeaching its capacity for foresight and sound judgment, go in the way of metamorphosing and emasculating a bill for whose most obnoxious propositions it has distinctly assumed responsibility? It is certain to be asked by some of its nominal supporters to abandon the proposal allowing a change of venue from Ireland to England, to materially restrict the arbitrary powers of arrest and imprisonment given to local magistrates with the law, and to expunge the unusual provision which makes the measure operative for an unlimited period instead of a fixed term of years. It is hard to see how the Cabinet could bring itself to yield on all three of these points, since its position in regard to every one of them has been publicly defended by Mr. GOSCHEN and Lord HARTINGTON. On the other hand, powerful public opinion looks like foolishness for public opinion is declaring itself strongly against such unjust discriminations against a large section of her Majesty's subjects, and pressure from without may make itself so deeply felt in the House as to sensibly deplete the Ministerial following in the divisions on the three repulsive features mentioned.

It is already plain that Mr. GOSCHEN's financial programme will have to withstand the strictures not only of the regular Gladstonian and Parnellian opposition, thus far represented in the debate on the budget by Mr. GLADSTONE, Mr. CHILDESS, and Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT, but by some of the Unionists and Tories. Lord RANDOLPH CECIL and Sir JOHN LUBBOCK, speaking for two distinct sections of malcontents in the coalition ranks, have taken a line of criticism which will prevent them from voting for the budget, unless it is radically changed. The proposals which have joined Mr. GLADSTONE in attacking the income tax and tobacco tax, a surmounting of the sinking fund likely to seriously weaken the security of the public debt, and for the simultaneous creation of new obligations incurred on behalf of grants for local purposes. It is hinted that Mr. GOSCHEN may consent to remove or modify two of the four objectionable features of his scheme, but he cannot expunge them all without forfeiting his reputation for financial sagacity, in which he is more deeply interested than in the welfare of his Tory colleagues in the Cabinet. Besides, it does not appear that Sir JOHN LUBBOCK and Lord RANDOLPH are less opposed to one of the three provisions named than to another.

But although the Tory navigators may find themselves in troubled waters when either of these measures enters the committee stage, it is when they reach the Land bill that they will really have to double the Cape of Storms. Here is a scheme which nobody entirely approves of, and which many members in both sections of the coalition detest; which landlords look upon as a piece of suicidal folly and tenants as a trap. The Orange faction has avowed a determination to oppose it unless it is shown of the solo provisions which palliate it in the eyes of Liberal Unionists; and some representatives of the English landowning class would be almost certain to cooperate with the Ulster Loyalists. No doubtful is the prospect of its passage in the House of Commons, that the Tories have been openly charged with introducing it in the Lords without any honest intention of sustaining it, and for the mere purpose of diverting public attention from the breach of faith involved in their substitution of the Crimes bill for their promised substantive relief. It will be recalled that when Mr. GLADSTONE, determined to show up the Ministerial inactivity in this matter, asked Mr. BALFOUR lately whether the Land bill would be made a Cabinet question, the answer returned was far from being encouraging. We opine, nevertheless, that the Ministers are now too thoroughly committed to their Land bill to let it drop as a thing of secondary import, and that when it comes up in the Commons in due course, Mr. GLADSTONE will be able to pin them to the wall, and force them to stand or fall, according to the fate of its main features.

What is Going On in Bektasheehyeh.

Not longer ago than Saturday last we ventured the suggestion that the recent death of CHERRIF Pasha at Cairo, on the 26th day of Rajab, might lead to fuller knowledge concerning the purposes and doings of the American Bektasheehyeh. By a curious coincidence the *Chicago Tribune* of that same day contained an account of a visit of some of the Ancient Arab Nobles now paying taxes and voting in Milwaukee to their Chicago brethren of the Mystic Shrine. We are now getting pretty near to the sacred black stone of the inner temple.

The occasion was a pilgrimage of a score of the Milwaukee Nobles under the leadership of illustrious Foreman J. S. ELLIOTT, Esq., and a number of Nobles belong to Triplet Temple, which is situated in the shadow of one of the vast breweries that certain infidel dogs have established in Milwaukee in defiance of the law of the Prophet. We are surprised to learn that the pilgrims led by JAMES BIRD ELLIOTT did not journey southward on sure-footed camels and swift dromedaries, or even on small but stalwart donkeys. They took the regular four o'clock afternoon train on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad. At the station they were met and welcomed by forty Ancient Arabes attired in broad blue trousers, red, white, and blue turbans, and red sashes, and carrying gleaming swords, led by SHARIF H. N. PUNTOON of Medinah Temple. As visiting Nobles and home Nobles met and embraced, a band of Soudanese musicians, at a sign from HASSAN NEDDID PUNTOON, struck up the solemn strains of that ancient Oriental melody, "We Won't Go Home Till Morning."

We infer that they didn't go home till morning. "When a formation had been effected," according to the report in the *Chicago Tribune*, the ranks marched out of the depot and through the principal streets, stopping at the Clifton House, where the Chicago men greeted their guests, and then marched to the asylum on Monroe street. The procession attracted a good deal of attention on the streets. The account leaves the Bektasheehyeh at the threshold of the asylum. What happened within the walls of the asylum can only be conjectured. Not even a Chicago reporter would dare to brave the gleaming swords that guard the inner mysteries of Bektasheehyeh.

Nearer home, too, we learn something of the movements of our fellow citizens, the Ancient Arabs. Two hundred Arab Nobles of Mecca Shrine, in this town, started on Monday on a pilgrimage, their baggage checked for Troy, to assist the Trojan Arabs in placing the symbolic funeral urn upon the sacred black stone, and in starting exclamations of incense in memory of CHERRIF Pasha. Among the New York Nobles we discover the names of those well-known Sheikhs and Marabouts, HASSAN JEBEL MCCORD, CALAIS AIR BRUNTON, OMAR EL-FITZ, WATSON and JOWE McKAY.

There is something highly suggestive in this sudden eruption of Islam in the midst of a civilization in many respects so dissimilar to that which it invades. One thing is certain, the Ancient Arabs of America can lend to life in this country a picturesque element that has hitherto been wanting, provided they dress and act consistently in the Ancient Arabian way. Duty, however, requires us to recall the attention of some of the Nobles and Shareefs and Illustrious Pontifices of the American Bektasheehyeh to those precepts of the Din, or practical law, and be borne through triumphantly.

There was no such reaction, but a simple determination of Mr. MANNING to run Mr. CLEVELAND, and the determination of Mr. TILDEN's tacit permission, no such feat could ever have been accomplished.

A Remarkable Stage Career.

Mrs. LANGTRY, having returned to New York, appeared on Monday night in a new character, and her actina was witnessed by a crowded house, whose interest in her personality seemed to be as fresh as that which was so conspicuously displayed when she was first introduced to the stage as an American actress.

Wherever she goes in this country she is still an object of interest and curiosity, and probably there are few actors, even among the greatest histrionic artists of our time, who are so successful as she in winning the substantial rewards of the theatrical profession. Whether she appears in large communities or small, at Niblo's Garden, with cheaper, or at an up-town theatre with greater prices of admission, she attracts crowded houses season after season. The public do not tire of her, though artistically she hardly invites serious criticism. She is not now an artist, and her temperament apparently forbids her ever becoming one. In that respect she is inferior to women of the stage whose public and professional reputation is not high enough to lift them from very subordinate places. Even in the artistic grace of their attitudes they surpass her, and in the expression of varying feelings they are vastly her superiors.

Of course, her physical beauty and the fame it constitutes her chief attraction, but that alone would soon lose its power, if there were not some subtler charm, and if, more than all, her acting were not at least agreeable to the public. The people would not go night after night and season after season to see even a pretty woman on the stage, if she were unable to interest them in her professional work, and to hold them by something besides mere external beauty.

Mrs. LANGTRY has now been upon the stage for more than five years, she having made her first public appearance at the Haymarket Theatre of London as long ago as December of 1881, though she did not formally enter the theatrical profession until January of 1882. Therefore the curiosity about her as a more professional beauty has had time to die out, and the impulse given to her by her association with the Prince of Wales to lose most of its force. Yet, at least here in the United States, she seems to have hardly less attraction for the public than when she made her first visit to New York, fresh from the notoriety of her London career.

Such an experience is extraordinary, and is not unexampled in the history of the stage, where triumphs due to causes like those which first made her an object of interest, are usually short-lived. The explanation probably is that her acting, however imperfect artistically, leaves a not disagreeable impression, and does not lessen the charm of her beauty and her femininity. She is a wise woman who takes care not to drive away her audiences by histrionic attempts in which her failure would produce positive annoyance, and even

torment. Unless, perhaps, in the last character undertaken by her, she does not destroy pleasure by exciting pity for her unsuccessfull efforts to rise to artistic heights which nature forbids her to attain.

A Constitution Better Than a Treaty.

Mr. GOLDWIN SMITH has recently published a letter to that distinguished citizen of two countries, Mr. ERNEST WILMAN, advocating a commercial treaty to establish a customs union between the United States and the provinces of the Canadian Dominion.

We should ourselves have no great objection to such a measure, but if a commercial union is to be instituted, a regular Constitution would appear to be a much more efficacious instrument than a mere treaty which can be abrogated at any time, upon due notice. Let the Canadian provinces come in under the Constitution as members of the American Union, and various inconveniences, which might in time result from a mere commercial compact, would be efficiently obviated.

We throw out this suggestion for the benefit of our Canadian friends. Of course they will not accept it at once, because they will imagine a number of objections to a measure so decisive; and yet a constitutional bond between the two countries would not be much more difficult of creation than an ordinary Zollverein.

What Did Mr. Lamar Mean?

In his oration at Charleston yesterday, Secretary LAMAR quoted with impressive and significant emphasis this passage from one of CALHOUN's speeches:

"I consider it as evidence of that deep degeneracy which precedes the downfall of a republic, when these elevated to power forget the promises on which they were elevated; the certain effect of which is to make the Government the only criterion of justice and equity in politics, and to create an indifference to political struggles highly favorable to the growth of despotic power."

And then Mr. CLEVELAND's Secretary of the Interior went on to say:

"I am proud to say, fellow citizens, that it has been my good fortune to be associated with one such man. I have seen him in the person of Mr. LAMAR, and the unexampled integrity with which he stands by them."

To what promises and to what fulfillments did Mr. LAMAR refer?

Was it the promise to administer public office as a public trust, and the subsequent exhibition of unexampled integrity in standing by the jobbery of the Pan-Electric Agency-General?

Was it the promise to execute the Democratic platform of "honest civil service reform," and then executing the Republican and Mugwump policy of putting men who were known Democrats into office, and keeping known Republicans who should have been turned out?

In that which makes Mr. LAMAR so proud of his association with the present Administration?

There is another contingency in which Mr. CLEVELAND should be strenuously preferred to any other candidate who could possibly be offered to the Democratic masses.

If the Democratic National Convention of 1898 is to make the doctrine of free trade with foreign countries a square and unqualified plank in its platform, then by all means Mr. CLEVELAND should be nominated; and, if it should be clearly determined beforehand that such a platform is to be adopted, *Tex. Sun* will not fail to advocate his nomination.

The cold water of truth will some time flush the mind of Deputy Surveyor WATT with the conviction that he is not a bigger man than Surveyor BEATTIE after all. Mr. WATT has been relieved from duty pending investigation of the charges against him, and during the next few days will have an excellent opportunity to reflect upon the relations which ought to prevail between a subordinate and his chief.

A Western Senator, whose name is withheld, has been giving to a reporter of the *Chicago Tribune* an interesting chapter of political history. "Why, three weeks before CLEVELAND was nominated," says this Western Senator, "he had not a ghost of a chance; but in that short space of time a reaction set in, and he was borne through triumphantly."

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A barber may shave his fellow man of a Sunday in this town, and not violate the law, the planing and trimming of the human beard being a work of necessity. But to sell a glass of beer to a thirsty wayfarer on the same day is to break the law, thence not being regarded as a necessity. In London, however, the business of the hairdresser is not so strictly regulated. It is a beautiful little New England village.

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Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Cleveland.

From the Philadelphia Press.

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A Gift of Valuable Books.

The General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen has just received as a gift the last collection of rare and valuable works on art and architecture which constituted the library of the late J. Morgan Blais of this city. They were presented to the society by the late J. Morgan Blais, who had been a member of the society for many years. The collection consists of a number of valuable books, including a copy of the *Architectural Digest*, a copy of the *Architectural Digest*, and a copy of the *Architectural Digest*. The collection is now in the possession of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen, and will be used for the benefit of the society.

Robert Garrett Gives a Dinner.

BALTIMORE, April 26.—Mr. Robert Garrett to-night gave a dinner party to a number of gentlemen who were present at the annual meeting of the Baltimore Association of the Sons of the American Revolution. The dinner was given at the Hotel Hamilton, and was a most successful one. The guests included many of the prominent citizens of Baltimore, and the evening was spent in a most enjoyable manner.

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The Vedder Liquor Tax bill was also considered in the caucus. It will take 17 votes to pass the bill, and it is expected that it will pass. The bill is a very important one, and it is expected that it will pass.

Mr. Erwin has succeeded in winning the majority of the Senate vote on the bill. He has won the support of the majority of the Senate, and it is expected that the bill will pass.

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The Vedder Liquor Tax bill was also considered in the caucus. It will take 17 votes to pass the bill, and it is expected that it will pass. The bill is a very important one, and it is expected that it will pass.

Mr. Erwin has succeeded in winning the majority of the Senate vote on the bill. He has won the support of the majority of the Senate, and it is expected that the bill will pass.

And then Mr. CLEVELAND's Secretary of the Interior went on to say:

"I am proud to say, fellow citizens, that it has been my good fortune to be associated with one such man. I have seen him in the person of Mr. LAMAR, and the unexampled integrity with which he stands by them."

To what promises and to what fulfillments did Mr. LAMAR refer?

Was it the promise to administer public office as a public trust, and the subsequent exhibition of unexampled integrity in standing by the jobbery of the Pan-Electric Agency-General?

Was it the promise to execute the Democratic platform of "honest civil service reform," and then executing the Republican and Mugwump policy of putting men who were known Democrats into office, and keeping known Republicans who should have been turned out?

In that which makes Mr. LAMAR so proud of his association with the present Administration?

There is another contingency in which Mr. CLEVELAND should be strenuously preferred to any other candidate who could possibly be offered to the Democratic masses.

If the Democratic National Convention of 1898 is to make the doctrine of free trade with foreign countries a square and unqualified plank in its platform, then by all means Mr. CLEVELAND should be nominated; and, if it should be clearly determined beforehand that such a platform is to be adopted, *Tex. Sun* will not fail to advocate his nomination.

The cold water of truth will some time flush the mind of Deputy Surveyor WATT with the conviction that he is not a bigger man than Surveyor BEATTIE after all. Mr. WATT has been relieved from duty pending investigation of the charges against him, and during the next few days will have an excellent opportunity to reflect upon the relations which ought to prevail between a subordinate and his chief.

A Western Senator, whose name is withheld, has been giving to a reporter of the *Chicago Tribune* an interesting chapter of political history. "Why, three weeks before CLEVELAND was nominated," says this Western Senator, "he had not a ghost of a chance; but in that short space of time a reaction set in, and he was borne through triumphantly."

There was no such reaction, but a simple determination of Mr. MANNING to run Mr. CLEVELAND, and the determination of Mr. TILDEN's tacit permission, no such feat could ever have been accomplished.

There is a great scarcity of spring chickens at the Washington Market, but titular spring chickens are plentiful as ever in the restaurants. Every genuine spring chicken ought to be accompanied with a birth certificate, so many are the impostors and gallinaceous toughs that assume his tender name and tend to bring him into contempt.